5

ABSTRCT

A computerized trading system permits trading across international boundaries. The system preferably includes multiple affiliates at the local level, each in a different country, that act as either introducing or executing agents. Between these local affiliates there is a global hub, with the local affiliates and the global hub being arranged in a hub-and-spoke arrangement. Introducing affiliates are responsible for handling customer accounts and information, and accepting transaction orders. Executing affiliates are responsible for executing the transaction orders for, e.g., equity trades in a local stock exchange. The global hub is responsible for routing orders and handling associated foreign exchange transactions to convert one currency into another.

47

35630.01/1991.00301